

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended): A structure for fixing a steering-gear housing to a vehicle-body member, comprising:
 - a first bracket comprising:
 - a first supporting face that is configured to support one circumferential side face ~~of the~~ of a steering-gear housing,
 - a first abutting face that is arranged at one circumferential end and that is configured to ~~about~~ the ~~about~~ a vehicle-body member,
 - a first bolt hole arranged through the first abutting face, and
 - a second abutting face arranged axially opposite to the first abutting face through the first bolt hole;
 - a second bracket comprising:
 - a second supporting face that is configured to support another circumferential side face of the steering-gear housing,
 - a third abutting face that is arranged at one circumferential end and that abuts the second abutting face, and
 - a second bolt hole that is arranged through the third abutting face at a position corresponding to the first bolt hole and that is smaller in an axial length than the first bolt hole;
 - a member that secures another circumferential end of the first bracket and another circumferential end of the second bracket; and
 - a bolt that is arranged from the second bolt hole through the first bolt hole and that is configured to be inserted through a third bolt hole formed in the vehicle-body member to clamp together ~~secure~~ the first bracket, the second bracket, and the vehicle-body member together.
2. (Original): The structure as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first bolt hole of the first bracket has an axial length larger than a radius of the steering-gear housing.

3. (Original): The structure as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second bolt hole of the second bracket comprises a slot which is longer in a direction substantially orthogonal to an axial direction of the steering-gear housing.

4. (Currently Amended): The structure as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first bracket comprises a protrusion that is arranged at an edge of the first abutting-face, the face and that is configured to be protrusion being engaged in a recess-eoncave formed in the vehicle-body member.

5. (Original): The structure as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second bracket is formed out of a sheet resilient material.

6. (Previously Presented): The structure as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a cylindrical resilient member that is configured to be arranged between the first and second brackets and the steering-gear housing.

7. (Previously Presented): The structure as claimed in claim 6, wherein the resilient member is formed with a protrusion on an outer periphery, and wherein one of the first and second supporting faces is formed with a concave engaged with the protrusion.

8. (Original): The structure as claimed in claim 7, wherein the concave of one supporting face is arranged at a connection between the first and second brackets.

9. (Original): The structure as claimed in claim 6, wherein the resilient member is formed with an incision.

10. (Original): The structure as claimed in claim 9, wherein the incision of the resilient member is arranged at a connection between the first and second brackets.

11. (Canceled):

12. (Currently Amended): A structure for fixing a steering-gear housing to a vehicle-body member, comprising:

a first bracket comprising:

a first supporting face that is configured to support one circumferential side face of a steering-gear ~~the steering gear~~ housing,

a first abutting face that is arranged at one circumferential end and that is configured to abut a vehicle-body ~~the vehicle body~~ member,

a first bolt hole arranged through the first abutting face, and

a second abutting face arranged axially opposite to the first abutting face through the first bolt hole;

a second bracket comprising:

a second supporting face that is configured to support another circumferential side face of the steering-gear housing,

a third abutting face that is arranged at one circumferential end and that abuts the second abutting face, and

a second bolt hole that is arranged through the third abutting face at a position corresponding to the first bolt hole and that is smaller in an axial length than the first bolt hole;

means for securing another circumferential end of the first bracket and another circumferential end of the second bracket; and

means, arranged from the second bolt hole through the first bolt hole and configured to extend through a third bolt hole formed in the vehicle-body member to clamp together ~~hole, for securing~~ the first bracket, the second bracket, and the vehicle-body member ~~together~~.

13. (Currently Amended): ~~The structure as claimed in claim 1, wherein the member, which secures the another circumferential end of the first bracket and the another circumferential end of the second bracket, A structure for fixing a steering-gear housing to a vehicle-body member, comprising:~~

a first bracket comprising:

a first supporting face that is configured to support one circumferential side face of a steering-gear housing,

a first abutting face that is arranged at one circumferential end and that is configured to abut a vehicle-body member,

a first bolt hole arranged through the first abutting face, and

a second abutting face arranged axially opposite to the first abutting face through the first bolt hole;

a second bracket comprising:

a second supporting face that is configured to support another circumferential side face of the steering-gear housing,

a third abutting face that is arranged at one circumferential end and that abuts the second abutting face, and

a second bolt hole that is arranged through the third abutting face at a position corresponding to the first bolt hole and that is smaller in an axial length than the first bolt hole;

a member, which secures another circumferential end of the first bracket and another circumferential end of the second bracket and which is not configured to be secured to the vehicle body vehicle-body member; and

a bolt that is arranged from the second bolt hole through the first bolt hole and that is configured to secure the first bracket, the second bracket, and the vehicle-body member together.

14. (Previously Presented): The structure as claimed in claim 12, wherein the first bolt hole of the first bracket has an axial length larger than a radius of the steering-gear housing.

15. (Previously Presented): The structure as claimed in claim 12, wherein the second bolt hole of the second bracket comprises a slot which is longer in a direction substantially orthogonal to an axial direction of the steering-gear housing.

16. (Currently Amended): The structure as claimed in claim 12, wherein the first bracket comprises a protrusion that is arranged at an edge of the first abutting face, ~~the protrusion being face and that is configured to be engaged in a concave recess formed in the vehicle-body member.~~

17. (Previously Presented): The structure as claimed in claim 12, wherein the second bracket is formed out of a sheet resilient material.

18. (Previously Presented): The structure as claimed in claim 12, further comprising a cylindrical resilient member that is configured to be arranged between the first and second brackets and the steering-gear housing.

19. (Previously Presented): The structure as claimed in claim 18, wherein the resilient member is formed with a protrusion on an outer periphery, and wherein one of the first and second supporting faces is formed with a concave engaged with the protrusion.

20. (Previously Presented): The structure as claimed in claim 19, wherein the concave of one supporting face is arranged at a connection between the first and second brackets.

21. (Previously Presented): The structure as claimed in claim 18, wherein the resilient member is formed with an incision.

22. (Previously Presented): The structure as claimed in claim 20, wherein the incision of the resilient member is arranged at a connection between the first and second brackets.

23. (Currently Amended): ~~The structure as claimed in claim 12, wherein the means for securing the another circumferential end of the first bracket and the another circumferential end of the second bracket~~ A structure for fixing a steering-gear housing to a vehicle-body member, comprising:

a first bracket comprising:

a first supporting face that is configured to support one circumferential side face of a steering-gear housing,

a first abutting face that is arranged at one circumferential end and that is configured to abut a vehicle-body member,

a first bolt hole arranged through the first abutting face, and

a second abutting face arranged axially opposite to the first abutting face through the first bolt hole;

a second bracket comprising:

a second supporting face that is configured to support another circumferential side face of the steering-gear housing,

a third abutting face that is arranged at one circumferential end and that abuts the second abutting face, and

a second bolt hole that is arranged through the third abutting face at a position corresponding to the first bolt hole and that is smaller in an axial length than the first bolt hole;

means for securing another circumferential end of the first bracket and another circumferential end of the second bracket, which means for securing is not configured to be secured to the vehicle body vehicle-body member; and

means, arranged from the second bolt hole through the first bolt hole, for securing the first bracket, the second bracket, and the vehicle-body member together.

24. (New): A structure comprising:
a bracket assembly configured to support a steering-gear housing on a vehicle-body member, the bracket assembly comprising:
a first bracket comprising:
a primary inside supporting surface;
a primary first end; and
a primary second end;
a second bracket comprising:
a secondary inside supporting surface;
a secondary first end; and
a secondary second end; and
a fastening device,

wherein the fastening device is configured to releaseably: (a) fasten together the primary and secondary second ends; and (b) fix the primary and secondary second ends to the vehicle-body member,

wherein the primary and secondary inside supporting surfaces are configured to clamp the steering-gear housing,

wherein the primary first end is configured to: (a) be joined with the secondary first end; and (b) not be joined to the vehicle-body member, and

wherein the first bracket is configured to be fixed to the vehicle-body member only at the primary second end.

25. (New): The structure according to claim 24, further comprising:
the vehicle-body member; and
the steering-gear housing supported by the bracket assembly on the vehicle-body member.

26. (New): The structure according to claim 24, further comprising:
a bolt that fastens together the primary and secondary first ends.

27. (New): The structure according to claim 26, wherein the bolt is spaced from the vehicle-body member and is arranged to fasten together the primary and secondary first ends, without fastening the primary and secondary first ends to the vehicle-body member.

28. (New): The structure according to claim 24, wherein the fastening device comprises a bolt.

29. (New): The structure according to claim 25, wherein the fastening device comprises a bolt.

30. (New): The structure according to claim 29, wherein the bolt extends through bolt holes formed in the primary and secondary second ends and through a bolt hole formed in the vehicle-body member, thereby fastening the primary and secondary second ends to the vehicle-body member.

31. (New): The structure according to claim 30, further comprising:
a second bolt that fastens together the primary and secondary first ends.

32. (New): The structure according to claim 31, wherein the second bolt is spaced from the vehicle-body member and is arranged to fasten together the primary and secondary first ends, without fastening the primary and secondary first ends to the vehicle-body member.

33. (New): The structure according to claim 24, wherein the second bracket is configured to be fixed to the vehicle-body member only at the secondary second end.